

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 /056 W

-----260922Z 051800 /20

P R 260845Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4167

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT KS

SUBJ: DUP PARTY CONVENTION ENDS IN SCUFFLE

1. ON MAY 26, DUP HELD HEATED, NOISY CONVENTION AT FORMER NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BUILDING NOW CITIZENS HALL ANNEX. PARTY MADE BID FOR PUBLIC ATTENTION BY FEATURING STRONGLY ANTI-GOVERNMENT SPEECH BY CHAIRMAN YANG IL-TON, INTRODUCTION AND PROMINENT SEATING ON PLATFORM OF SOME LEADING DISSIDENTS, AND REFERENCES FROM ROSTRUM TO PROLIFERATION OF ANTI-GOVERNMENT PLACARDS IN HALL. LITTLE DISCUSSION, HOWEVER, OF DUP DECISION TO BOYCOTT JUNE 10 BY-ELECTION.

2. YANG IL-TONG BEGAN HIS SPEECH CLAIMING THAT GOVERNMENT HAD EXERTED PRESSURE, WHICH HE SAID HE WOULD IGNORE, TO REMOVE OVERSIZED ANTI-GOVERNMENT SIGNS DEMANDING E.G. ABOLITION OF YUSHIN SYSTEM AND EMERGENCY MEASURES. YANG SAID TO READ SINGS WAS TO READ HIS SPEECH. YANG CLAIMED IN TEXT THAT HE HAD VISITED KIM TAE-CHUNG IN PRISON AND HAD BEEN INSTRUMENTAL, ALONG WITH CARDINAL
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KIM, YUN PO-SUN AND OTHERS WHO SIGNED LETTER HE ALLEGEDLY CARRIED, IN CONVENCING KIMWZO STOP HIS RECENT FAST. LOCAL POLITICAL SECTION OBSERVER CALLED SPEECH" AGGRESSIVE AND RADICAL."

3. CONVENTION WAS NOTABLE IN ATTENTION PAID TO ANTI-GOVERNMENT DISSIDENTS BOTH PRESENT AND ABSENT. FLORAL

WREATHS FROM KIM TAE-CHUNG, YUN PO-SUN AND CHONG IL-HYONG WERE DISPLAYED AT STAGE CENTER WITH NDP AND YI CHONG-SUNG'S FLOWERS SHUNTED OFF TO SIDE. NDP AND DRP WERE VERBALLY AND PREDICTABLY DRUBBED FOR NOT PARTICIPATING IN JUNE 10 BY-ELECTION. YANG ACCUSED THEM OF COLLUSION, BUT HE CAREFULLY AVOIDED ANY DETAILED REASONS WHY DUP WAS ALSO BOYCOTTING ELECTION. HIS PUBLIC STATEMENTS HAVE FOLLOWED SAME LINE NDP IS TAKING, THAT CAMPAIGN WOULD BE TOO CONTROLLED BY GOVERNMENT.

4. ALTHOUGH US TROOP WITHDRAWAL WAS MENTIONED IN PASSING BY YANG AND OTHERS, REFERENCES TO U.S. WERE NOT PARTICULARLY HEATED. ALMOST ALL ENERGY IN NON-AIR CONDITIONED HALL WAS DIRECTED AGAINST ROKG. "INACTION", SUMMARIZED YANG, "MEANS YOU ARE SIDING WITH EVIL."

5. ACCORDING TO EMBASSY POLITICAL SECTION LOCAL PRESENT, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING CONVENTION AT 3:30 PM. APPROXIMATELY 450 DUP MEMBERS CLASHED FOR TEN MINUTES WITH ESTIMATED 500 POLICEMEN SURROUNDING BUILDING. ONLY THOSE IN FOREGROUND WERE ACTIVELY INVOLVED, HOWEVER. DURING SCUFFLE CHAIRMAN YANG REPORTEDLY WAS PUSHED ABOUT, COLLAPSED AND WAS DRIVEN OFF IN AMBULANCE. SOME TWENTY YOUNGER PARTY MEMBERS WERE SEEN TO BE BLEEDING PROFUSELY BUT WERE QUICKLY TAKEN BY POLICE TO WAITING BUSES. DUP MEMBERS WORE CHEST BANNERS CALLING FOR REPEAL OF EMERGENCY MEASURE NO. 9, AND RELEASE OF "DEMOCRATIC PERSONS." SNEIDER

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-May-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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